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People Must Have Facts About War in Vietnam

Editor, The News: Since the Central Intelligence Agency hasn't provided the facts, we can't be certain about the trends of the military or political situations in South Vietnam.

We need to have facts in our heads before our thinking is done. We know that there is something wrong with the way the Thieu government is organized, but we haven't been able to solve the problems connected with it. The U. S. has become involved in South Vietnam without Congress or the people knowing much about military or political trends.

A credibility gap developed during the Johnson administration about our aims and objectives in South Vietnam. We have not been honest with the North Vietnamese.

A lot of bombing of North Vietnam did not concern strictly military objectives. Lyndon Johnson wanted to carry on a war of attrition and gain recompense for his sins. What resulted was not war in a military sense, but a melee. The thing in Vietnam never proved anything.

Reports of the March 1968 massacre may help us reach some sort of political construction in South Vietnam. After all, the U. S. should not be telling the people there what to do.

We should be telling Thieu and his generals what to do, but the U. S. cannot and should not directly intervene in the lives of the Vietnamese people. We have reached a new phase in Vietnamese affairs, and if the Vietnamese will profit from experience, things will be better.

We have been having totals of about 20 or 30 Americans killed each week in Vietnam. That is much better than the manner in which LBJ carried on the offensive.

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